



605.04 Inmates Admitted to Hospital

Number Series: 600 - Corrections Division

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605.04-1 Policy

- I. When an inmate is housed for treatment in a non-secure hospital facility, the staff of that facility shall be guaranteed safety, and inmate movement shall be restricted to prevent escape.
- II. Admission to a hospital facility merely extends an inmate's limit of confinement and does not waive security requirements.
- III. Deputies assigned to hospital security duty shall be familiar with Hendry County Sheriff's Office policy and procedures regarding inmate admission and security.

605.04-2 General Responsibilities

- I. Shift Supervisors are responsible for assigning Detention Deputies, on a one to one basis, to guard inmates admitted to a hospital.
 - A. Inmates admitted at a hospital shall be guarded 24 hours a day, seven days a week (dependant upon the security risk).
 - B. This responsibility may only be relieved by the, Jail Administrator, or Sheriff.
 - C. Male Detention Deputies may not guard female inmates ONLY if there is no female deputy available; female Detention Deputies may guard male inmates.
 - D. High Risk Female Inmates shall be supervised by two female Detention Deputies. In instances where two female Detention Deputies are not available a male Deputy is allowed to serve as the second officer.
- II. Except for suicide risks, face-to-face contact is not necessary when providing security. Security may be maintained from the hall or appropriate vantage point.
- III. Hospital staff shall not release information regarding admitted inmates.
- IV. The assigned Detention Deputy shall inform Hospital Security Staff of the following:
 - A. The inmate is admitted.
 - B. Inmate's charges and security risk.
 - C. Whether HCSO will be responsible for guarding the inmate, or if the inmate is to be guarded by a private security firm.
 - D. When the inmate is released from custody.

605.04-3 General Detention Deputy Duties

- I. Detention Deputies shall:

- A. Project a professional image.
- B. Be in full uniform at all times, to include appropriate hand cuff/leg iron keys.
- C. Adhere to hospital safety ordinances and posted signs (including "No Smoking" regulations).
- D. Not expect food trays from the hospital kitchen unless the Detention Deputy orders and pays for such food. Provisions for Detention Deputy meals are the Detention Deputy's responsibility.
- E. Respond immediately should the inmate abuse hospital staff with unacceptable language or behavior.
- F. Perform searches of inmate and inmate property, as necessary, to control contraband.
- G. Never leave an inmate unguarded; escort the inmate during movement to include the Emergency Room (ER), Operating Room, X-Ray Room and all other.
- H. Notify the officer-in-charge when an inmate refuses medical treatment.
- I. Maintain a 24 hour Hospital Post Log. The off-going Midnight Shift Deputy shall forward the log to the Day Shift Supervisor for critique and proper filing.
- J. Phone the Jail and speak to the Officer-in-Charge at four (4) hour intervals and at the end of their shift, or when relieved.

605.04-4 Use of Restraints

- I. Inmates confined to the hospital will be restrained at all times with handcuffs and leg irons which shall be applied so as not to interfere with medical treatment.
- II. If hospital staff requests that restraints be totally removed for an emergency medical procedure the deputy will identify an alternate means of restraint. If mechanical restraint is impractical, the Deputy will request a second Deputy be assigned.
- III. Anytime an inmate is to be removed from his/her bed, a second set of handcuffs and leg irons will be applied prior to removing those that are restraining them to the bed.
- IV. Extra handcuffs and leg irons will be carried by all members working hospital details and keys to same.
- V. Detention Deputies shall not relinquish restraint keys to Hospital staff.

605.04-5 Inmate Restrictions

- I. Inmates shall not use the telephone while housed at Hospital unless approved by the Officer-in-Charge.
- II. Inmates shall not make money purchases or charge card purchases.
- III. Inmates shall not be allowed books or other reading materials other than those provided by Hospital staff.
- IV. Inmates on a regular diet shall not be allowed to use extra cost "selective" menu privileges.
- V. Inmates will be permitted television privileges at the inmate's expense.

605.04-6 Inmate Visitation Privileges

- I. Visitation for inmates confined to any Hospital is not permitted. The Corrections Lieutenant, Jail Administrator, Chief Deputy, or Sheriff, may authorize visitation when death to the inmate is imminent. The frequency and duration of such visits shall be in

accordance with the posted schedule for inmates confined in the Hendry County Jail and shall be allowed during regular hospital visiting hours.

- II. In the event an inmate is authorized a visit; the visitors must present themselves to the Inmate Visitation Area and register to visit the inmate.
- III. Detention Deputies shall:
 - A. Log all visitations on the Hospital Post Log.
 - B. Require proper identification from visitor(s).
 - C. Remain present during visits.
- IV. Attorneys may visit at any reasonable hour.
- V. All visits shall be in accordance with hospital rules governing visitation.

605.04-7 Medical Release from Hospital

- I. Upon completion of medical treatment and discharge from the Hospital by the physician, the inmate shall be returned to the Jail by the Detention Deputy as quickly as possible. The Detention Deputy shall notify the Shift Supervisor and arrange for transportation.
- II. Inmates will be admitted and discharged through the Hospital Emergency Room, unless prior arrangements with the admitting physician have been made.
- III. The nurse in charge of the involved unit shall notify Hospital Security staff when an inmate is discharged.

605.04-8 Pregnant Inmates

- I. Pregnant female inmates during labor, delivery, and postpartum recovery up to 24 hours after delivery, or longer if the physician after consultation with the Jail Administrator recommends a longer period will not be restrained by any means unless directed by the Jail Administrator or higher authority. F.S 944.241
- II. Use of restraints during this time will only be applied if the agency determines that extraordinary circumstances exist. If the use of restraints is deemed necessary an official shall make written findings within 10 days after the use of restraints as to the extraordinary circumstances that dictated the use of restraints. These findings will be maintained on file by the agency for no less than 5 years. Restraints if used under these circumstances will be applied in the least restrictive

REFERENCES

State/Federal Regulations:
Florida Model Jail Standards
§ 944.241, Fla. Stat.

FCAC:
N/A

PREA:
N/A

Forms:

Hospital Post Log

Other Policy/ Procedure References:
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